springs, conveyed the instruments.

"To make the exploration as useful as possible, I determined," says Captain French, "in conformity with my general instructions, to vary the route to the Rocky Mountains from that followed in the year 1842. The route then was up the valley of the Great Platte river to the South Pass, in north latitude 42°; the route now determined on was up the valley of the Kansas river, and to the head of the Arkansas, and to some pass in the mountains, if any could be found, at the sources of that river.

"By making this deviation from the former route, the problem of a new road to Oregon and California, in a climate more genial, might be solved, and a better knowledge obtained of an important river and the country it drained, while the great object of the expedition would find its point of commencement at the termination of the former, which was at that great gate in the ridge of the Rocky Mountains called the South Pass, and on the lofty peak of the mountain which overlooks it, deemed the highest peak in the ridge, and from the opposite sides of which four great rivers take their rise, and flow to the Pacific or the Mississippi."

The route appears to have been for many days through a pleasant and level prairie country, intersected with numerous streams, in general well tim-bered on their margin with ash, elm, cotton-wood, and very large oak. This agreeable state of things did not, however, long continue; for, the narrative

"Shortly after leaving our encampment on the 26th June, we found suddenly that the nature of the country had entirely changed. Bare sand hills every where surrounded us in the undulating ground along which we were moving, and the plants peculiar to a sandy soil made their appearance in abun-

The fourth of July was spent at St. Vrain's fort,

in latitude 40 deg. 16 min. 52 sec. north, and longitude west 105 deg. 12 min, 23 sec.

The party were in the neighborhood of Pike's peak on the 11th of July. We are told respecting the country through which they were now travel-

"With occasional exceptions, comparatively so very small into to require meation, these prairies are every where covered with a close and vigorous growth of a great variety of rasses, among which the most abundant is the buffalo grass, excleric dactyloides.) Between the Platte and Arkansas rives, that part of this region which forms the basin drained by With occasional exceptions, comparatively so very small to to require measion, these prairies are every where cover to to require measion, these prairies are every where cover to the party obtained the first view with a close and vigorous growth of a great variety or so, among which the most abundant is the buffalo grass, or and a the party of the party obtained the first view with a close and vigorous growth of a great variety or so, among which the most abundant is the buffalo grass, the control of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard looker.) Between the Platte and Arkansas rivers and a the control of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard looker.) Between the Platte and Arkansas rivers are controlled to the control of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard looker.) Between the Platte and Arkansas rivers are controlled to the control of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard looker.) Between the Platte and Arkansas rivers are controlled to the control of the control of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard looker.) Between the Platte and Arkansas rivers are controlled to the party obtained the first view of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard looker.) Between the Platte and Arkansas rivers are controlled to the party obtained the party obtained the first view of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard looker.) Between the Platte and Arkansas rivers are controlled to the party obtained the party obtained the standard looker. The proximity of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard looker. The proximity of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard looker. The proximity of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard looker. The proximity of the object of their anxious search, the Great standard lookers are controlled to the country will and solidation the party obtained the party obt hundred feet in height. In all this region the timber is en-tirely confined to the streams. In the eastern half, where the soil is a deep, rich, vegetable mould, retentive of rain and moisture, it is of vigorous growth and of many different kinds; and throughout the western half its consists entirely of various species of cotton-wood, which deserves to be called the tree of the desert—growing in sandy soils where no other tree will grow; pointing out the existence of water, and furnishing to the traveller fuel, and food for his animals."

On the 17th July Captain FREMONT visited the

point where we crossed is 42° 24′ 32″; its longitude 109″ 26′ 00″; its distance from the mouth of the Kansas, by the common travelling route, 962 miles; from the mouth of the Great Platte, along the valley of that river, according to our survey of 1842, 882 miles; and its distance from St. Louis about 400 miles more by the Kansas, and about 700 by the Great Platte route; these additions being steamboat conveyance in both instances. From this pass to the mouth of the Oregon is about 1,400 miles by the common travelling route; so that, under a general point of view, it may be assumed to be about half way between the Mississippi and the Pacific ocean, on the common travelling route. Following a hollow of slight and easy descent, in which was very soon formed a little tributary to the Gulf of California, (for the waters which flow west from the South Pass, or lattuale by observation 42° 19′ 53″.

Entering here the valley of Green river—the great Colorado of the West—and inclining very much to the southward along several days over dry and level uninteresting plains; to which a low, scrubby growth of artemias gave a uniform dull grayish color; and on the evening of the 15th we encamped in the Mexican territory, on the left bank of Green river, 49 miles from the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 110° 05′ 05″, and latitude ov of the South Pass, in longitude 1

"In our occasional conversations with the few old hunter who had visited that region, it had been a subject of frequent speculation; and the wonders which they related were not the less agreeably because they were highly exaggerated and im-

"Hitherto this lake had been seen only by trappers who were wandering through the country in search of new beaver streams, caring very little for geography; its islands had never been visited; and none were to be found who had entirely made the circuit of its shores; and no instrumental observations or geographical survey, of any description, had ever been made any where in the neighboring region. It was generally supposed that it had no visible outlet; but among the trappers, including those in my own camp, were many who believed that somewhere on its surface was a terrible whirlpool, through which its waters found their way to the ocean by some subtergances communication. All these things had made a frequent

On the north fork of the Platte:

"In the precipitous bluffs were displayed a succession of strata containing fossil vegetable remains, and several beds of our of the plant of the precipitous bluffs were displayed a succession of strata containing fossil vegetable remains, and several beds of our of the plant of the plant of the precipitous bluffs were displayed a succession of strata containing fossil vegetable remains, and several beds of our of the plant of the plan

tion of the most degraded tribe of Indians yet discovered on our continent—the root-diggers:

"We had now entered a country inhabited by these people; and as in the course of our voyage we shall frequently

The rapid and wasteful destruction of the buffal

in these western wildernesses has been often alluded to and lamented by travellers, yet the subject is of

August 30, in latitude 42 deg. 14 min. 22 sec. and longitude (about) 112—

"A number of Indians came to visit us, and several men were sent to the village with goods, tobacco, knives, cloth, vermilion, and the usual trinkets, to exchange for provisions. But they had no game of any kind; and it was difficult to obtain any roots from them, as they were miserably poor, and had but little to spare from their winter stock of provisions. Several of the Indians drew aside their blankets, showing mental their lean and boars forces and I would not any longer terms.

NORTH CARRELINA MELECTRON.

prenaring and dressing the robes being very great, and it is seldom that a lodge trades more than twenty skins in a year. It is during the summer months, and in the early part of autumn, that the greatest number of buffalo are killed, and yet at this time a skin is never taken for the purpose of trade.

"From these data, which are certainly limited, and decidedly within bounds, the reader is left to draw his own inference of the immense number annually killed.

"In 1842 I found the Sioux Indians of the Upper Platte demont's, as their French traders expressed it, with the failure of the buffalo, and in the following year large villages from the Upper Missouri came over to the mountains at the heads of the Platte in search of them. The rapidly progressive failure of their principal and almost their only means of subsistence has created great alarm among them, and at this time there are only two modes presented to them by which they see a good prospect for escaping starvation, one of these is to to the settlements along the frontier of the States; and the

On September 6 the party obtained the first view of the object of their anxious search, the Great

bered was still left to our imagination, as the distance was too great to determine if the dark hues upon them were woodland or naked rock. During the day the clouds had been gathering black over the mountains to the westward, and, while we were looking, a storm burst down with sudden fury upon the lake, and entirely hid the islands from our view. So far as we could see, along the shores there was not a solitary tree, and but little appearance of grass; and on Weber's fork, a few miles below our last encampment, the timber was gathered into groves, and then disappeared entirely."

The voyage on the lake and the preliminary an-

The control of the property of

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCES.

CAPAID FEMOLOTS SECOND EXPLOSING

We have derived much sufficient mediations, or one of the endpoint principal and the state of the sufficient mediation of the sufficient me

shores, lay down for the first time in a long journey in perfect security; no one thinking about his arms. The evening was extremely bright and pleasant; but the wind rose during the night, and the waves began to break heavily on the above, making our island tremble. I had not expected in our inland journey to hear the rear of an ocean surf; and the strangeness of our situation, and the excitement we felt in the associated interest of the place, made this one of the most interesting nights I remember during our long expedition."

expedition did not go up to the junction, owing pressed for time.

"From the South Pass to this place is about 1,000 miles; and as it is about the same distance from that pass to the Missouri river at the mouth of the Kansas, it may be assumed that 2,000 miles is the recessary land travel in crossing from the United States to the Pacific Ocean on this line.

Captain Fresont proceeded by the river in a large canoe, from the Methodist Missionary establishment below the falls of the Columbia, to Fort Vancouver, which he reached about midnight on the 6th of November. This was the furthest value ward point of the outward bound journey, being, by the route of the expedition, 2,766 miles from Kansas, on the western frontier of the State of

and, selely in the interest and in the love of geography, have seen the ocean on the western as well as on the east side of the continent, so as to give a satisfactory completent to the geographical picture which had been formed in o minds; but the rainy season had now regularly set in, at the air was filled with fogs and rain, which left no beauty any scenory, and obstructed observations. The object of instructions had been entirely fulfilled in having connected reconnoissance with the surveys of Captain Wilkes; and though it would have been agreeable and satisfactory to the nate here also our roder astronomical observations, I was for such a reason, justified to make a delay in waiting for vorable weather."